

NO HOSE NOR FIRE ALARM AT BURNED CAPITOL

firemen have been injured by falling debris, but have returned to work after having their wounds attended to by first aid methods.

In every portion of the west wing the rooms are a hopeless wreck. Desks have been ripped open, drawers forced and their contents strewn about, the doors smashed to splinters by the battering axes of the fire fighters. The latter were handicapped from the start by their ignorance of the many devious turns and passages and blind corridors of the Capitol.

Sightseers thronged through the building as soon as it was possible to enter. Among them were many women. They were not permitted to enter the zones of danger, but elsewhere were allowed to roam at will. Scores of legislators visited the chambers and committee rooms and removed their personal effects. Then they trotted off as their will led them, most of the Democrats going to the adjourned caucus meeting at the City Hall. Both Houses met there during the morning in response to a call by Gov. Dix.

MILITIA GUARDS DEBRIS.

At 11 o'clock fifty National Guardsmen were detailed by Adjutant-General Verbeck to patrol the Capitol, watching the furnishings and the office records, which present a tempting bit of salvage.

The fire was confined to the west and north wings of the Capitol, but damage by smoke and water extended to almost all parts of the great structure. The State library contained 600,000 volumes, 400,000 pamphlets and 300,000 historical manuscripts, including the most valuable genealogical works in the United States. The documents and equipments of the library that can be replaced were valued at \$2,600,000. Senator Wagner said that he had consulted with the State Architect and he had informed him that the Senate and Assembly Chambers would be ready for the resumption of legislative work by next Monday. "I understand," he said, "that most of the legislative records have been saved out of the wreck. There will be no substantial legislative work done until next Monday."

Samuel Abbott, a night watchman, is missing. Three other Capitol employees, reported missing, turned up at noon uninjured.

Only the granite walls of the Capitol on the westerly side remain standing. The easterly elevation is only slightly damaged. The Assembly and Senate chambers were flooded with water and their magnificent fittings were ruined. The famous papier mache ceiling of the Assembly chamber, which was paid for as oak, collapsed under pressure of water from above and fell into the big room, carrying down the ornate chandelier and other decorations. The wreck of the ceiling caught fire and was extinguished with difficulty.

Wrecked beyond repair is the grand double staircase in the center of the western wing. The glazed dome surmounting it fell as soon as the flames swept through that part of the building.

MILITIA GUARD AND SAVE RECORDS.

So great was the crush of people around the Capitol at 6 o'clock this morning that the police were powerless to maintain fire lines and the firemen were hampered in their work. Adj.-General Verbeck sent word to the State army that he desired troops, and squads of infantrymen were detailed for guard duty and to the work of rescuing books and documents from threatened departments.

The officers and men of the First Ambulance Corps did excellent work among the firemen, many of whom were overcome by the dense smoke and the heat. Search for the bodies of the missing employees of the Capitol was begun before the fire had burnt itself out in the west wing.

The utter absence in the Capitol of precautionary or protective measures or apparatus against fire is shown by the following statement from L. M. Howe, a legislative correspondent, who was in the building when the fire started:

"At about 2.15 o'clock this morning," said Mr. Howe, "another newspaper man and I were working on the third floor of the Capitol, when the clerk of the Assembly Judiciary Committee, accompanied by a night watchman, ran through the corridor shouting:

"There is a fire in the Assembly Library!"

NO FIRE ALARM IN BUILDING.

"Rushing over to the room, which is in the rear of the Assembly, we saw the desk in the southwest corner a mass of flames. The fire at this time could have been easily put out with a pail or two of water. We searched in vain for anything to serve the purpose and finally decided to close the door and keep out the draft. The night watchman ran downstairs to sound the alarm, THERE BEING NO ALARMS IN THE BUILDING.

"While we waited for the Department, we could see the flames through the glass transom, rapidly filling the entire apartment, but we were helpless to do anything. By the time the Department reached the building the room where the desk was located was a roaring furnace, but at that time it had not spread into the hall or adjoining room.

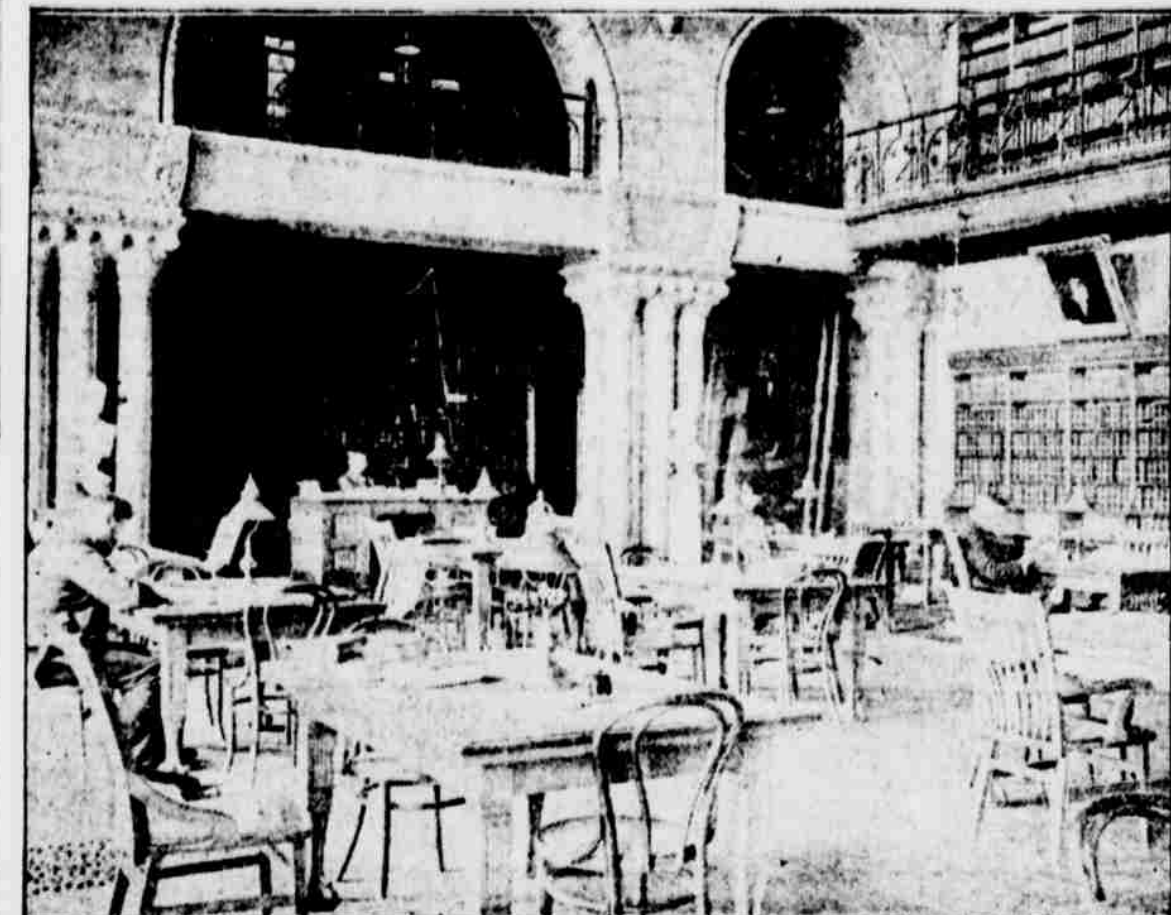
"Before a hose could be brought into use the fire, with a loud explosion, burst simultaneously through the transom into the hall leading to the main entrance of the State Library and through the large windows into the street. The tongue of flame which swept out over the transom opening into the hall appeared to instantly set fire to the underside of the wooden plank forming the mezzanine floor, which occupies the northern half of the library corridor. So fast did the fire spread over this floor that we were obliged to run to the Senate entrance to escape being caught by the flames. In less than twenty minutes the State Library had caught and the flames were shooting through the roof at the northwest angle."

State Offices Destroyed.

Following is a list of the various departments and offices wholly or partially destroyed by the fire:

- On the third floor:
 - The State Library, with its priceless documents, some of them dating back to 1776, and irreplaceable.
 - The Assembly and Senate libraries, stored with thousands of volumes of law and code books, also a number of documents and manuscripts that can never be replaced.
 - The Finance Committee room, in which were stored drafts of all the appropriation and other bills of the present session.
 - The chamber of the President pro tem of the Senate.
 - The Lieutenant-Governor's room—badly damaged, but not wrecked.
 - The Senate and Assembly Chambers, both flooded with water that has ruined their rich furnishings, the ceiling of the latter hanging in straggling shreds of half dissolved paper.
 - On the fourth floor the wrecked offices were:
 - The Court of Claims, in which many important legal documents were on file.
 - The Bill Drafting Department.
 - The Bureau of Weights and Measures.
 - The State Regents' rooms.

State Library, With Priceless Volumes, Destroyed in the Albany Capitol Fire



Burned Building Twice as Costly as National Capitol at Washington

records and documents of priceless value, spread rapidly, and the library was a seething furnace when the firemen arrived.

The fire quickly destroyed all bills, documents and papers, some of them dating as far back as 1776. These are irreplaceable. The library also contained all the documents of the Codes and Judiciary Committees of the present session.

The fire soon entered the document room, which was quickly doomed. The flames ate up to the roof and swept over, lighting the heavens and igniting other parts of the Capitol.

Flames Spread to State Library. Five minutes later the fire leaped into the State Library with a roar and its inflammable contents were licked up like oil in a furnace. The great oaken door was partly burned through, but the firemen were unable to penetrate any point of vantage that would enable them to train their hose on the flames to success.

The firemen were badly hampered in their operations and the flames, fanned by a north wind, ate their way through the corridors and up to the very doors of the Assembly chamber. The fire before the firemen could drag a hose around from State street, the State Library, with its valuable collection of books and documents, including manuscripts and almost priceless relics, was seen to be doomed.

Every employee of the Capitol who could be mustered into service joined the firemen in fighting the flames, which swept along the corridors and ate up the expensive furnishings of the various rooms wherever they touched.

Among the early arrivals was Assemblyman Levy of New York, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who said the Assembly Library contained all the records of legislative sessions and thousands of law books.

State officials were routed out of their beds and hurried to the blazing building to rescue State records in other departments should they become endangered. Many legislators were also early on the scene.

The flames quickly made their way to the State Executive Department on the second floor, directly under the Assembly library, and the Court of Claims on the floor above, where the fire started, was quickly destroyed.

At 4.45 o'clock the flames had swept across the entire west section of the building and were coming into the Senate Finance Committee room and the adjoining office of the temporary President of the Senate.

The flames lighted up the whole city, and had it not been that the wind was blowing in an opposite direction, would have threatened the new State Education Building across Washington avenue, to the north, which is being erected at a cost of \$4,000,000.

GIRL DIES SUDDENLY AFTER SKIPPING THE ROPE

"I Did 608 Skips, Anyway," She Tells Mother Just Before Her Heart Failed.

Mary Tompkins, eight years old, and one of the brightest pupils of Public School No. 117, Williamsburg, died suddenly today at her home, No. 92 Roosevelt street, as the result of too violent exercise in skipping the rope.

The little girl was very proud of her ability to skip the rope longer and faster than any of her playmates. She went out before breakfast and began skipping on the sidewalk. A few minutes later she went to her mother saying that she felt sick.

Her face was blue and her hands were cold. Her mother put her to bed and sent for a doctor, but before one came the girl was dead.

Dr. Wood, the coroner's physician, said that death was directly caused by muscular convulsions of the heart, caused by overexertion.

Taft Has Lock as Guest.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—William Taft, Collector of the Port of New York, was a guest of President Taft at the White House today.

COLD CAUSE HEADACHE. LAXATIVE. E. J. QUINN, 1100 Broadway, New York. Look for signature E. J. QUINN, New York.

Perched upon the highest of the seven hills upon which the city of Albany is built, the Capitol, a gigantic structure of white granite, with red-capped towers, stands. It is 300 feet north and south, by 400 feet east and west, and covers three acres. The first stone in the foundation was laid July 7, 1889, and on the 24th of June, 1891, the corner stone was laid with great ceremony by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. The Capitol was first occupied by the Legislature on Jan. 7, 1892, the formal occupation taking place on the twelfth of the following month.

Some writers upon architecture say that the white granite Capitol, with its towers, reminds them of the famous Taj Mahal, in India. Others think it a superb reflection of French architecture.

Has National Reputation. The Capitol at Albany has had a national reputation for years as being one of the most costly public buildings in the United States. Up to the beginning of the present fiscal year \$3,265,082 had been expended on it, and estimates placed the cost of completing it at several millions more. Only one other public building in the country has cost more and that is the Philadelphia City Hall, on which more than \$39,000,000 has been expended to date.

In comparison with the cost of some other notable public buildings will give an idea of the great burden the cost of its construction has been to the State. The National Capitol at Washington, which covers two and a half acres more, cost \$11,724,100. The Pennsylvania State Capitol at Harrisburg cost \$15,000,000. The Parliament Buildings at Ottawa, Canada, cost \$2,000,000.

An Impending Structure. The Capitol was the most imposing building in Albany not only because of its great size, but also because of its commanding position on the highest of the hills which rise above the western bank of the Hudson River. Its white granite walls and red-capped towers were visible from almost every section of the city and from all of the railroads entering the capital.

The Capitol has been under construction forty-four years. The act authorizing the erection of a building to cost more than \$4,000,000. The original architect was Thomas Fuller.

Fuller was superseded as architect in 1875 by an advisory board consisting of Frederick Law Olmstead, Leopold Eidlitz and Henry H. Richardson. The original Italian Renaissance plan was modified to the Romanesque, but the legislative department demanded a return to the original plan, and its orders were obeyed.

Formally Occupied in 1879. The formal occupation of the Capitol occurred on Feb. 12, 1879. At that time the Assembly chamber was already occupied. The Senate chamber was not occupied until March 19, 1881. Other parts of the building were later occupied as they were completed.

The ground floor contained a number of long corridors from which opened offices occupied by the State Treasurer, the Superintendent of Public Works, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and other important State officials. Magnificent stone stairways, the beauty of which have been widely celebrated, led from the main corridor to the Senate and Assembly wings.

On the second floor were the offices of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney-General and a number of other officials. The exquisite marble vaulting on the corridors of this floor was particularly noteworthy, though the rooms occupied by the Governor and some of the members of his official family, were remarkable for their elegance.

Floor for Legislature. On the third floor were the Senate and Assembly chambers, the story rooms of the building. The Senate chamber was designed by H. H. Richardson of Boston, the leading architect of his time. The walls of this

chamber were of Mexican onyx and tinted Siena marble, and the effect produced by this arrangement was one of singular richness and beauty.

The Assembly chamber, when designed by Leopold Eidlitz and when finished, according to his plans, was a magnificent room and resembled the interior of a church. The ceiling was of sandstone supported by four splendid columns of Tennessee marble. The stone ceiling proved unsuitable, and it was decided to substitute quartered oak. In connection with this occurred the celebrated "ceiling scandal."

The contract for the new ceiling was awarded to John Smith of Albany. The special commission that awarded it thought that it had provided for a quartered oak ceiling, but when the job was finished in 1889, a newspaper expose showed that it was made of paper mache. The cost had been \$25,000.

Supt. Andrews Accused. It was charged that Superintendent Andrews, who had charge of the work, had substituted the words "or of paper mache" in that clause of the specifications which had called for quartered oak. A special committee recommended the indictment of Smith, Andrews and T. J. Sullivan, who was associated in the work, but no indictments were found.

On the third floor of the Capitol were also located the rooms occupied by the Court of Appeals and the State Library. The collection of books and historical documents in the library was extremely valuable. Estimates of its value run all the way from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000.

'HATS OFF,' SAID THE COURT; LADY LAWYER COMPLIED. Wondrous Headpiece Is Discarded When Judge Makes Request.

Miss Freda Thomas, lawyer, made her first appearance in General Sessions today. She was wearing on her head an imposing structure of feathers, flowers and feathers when she stepped forward to address the Court in the case of Harry Strauss of No. 325 West One Hundred and Sixty-sixth street, accused of killing Franklin Loomis in a stabbing affray at Amsterdam avenue and one Hundred and Sixty-sixth street last November.

"Counsel will kindly remove that—er—er—I may say, her hat," said Judge Malone.

Miss Thomas bowed prettily, drew several formidable sneers from the sides of the courtroom, and laid it tenderly on the table before her.

Then the business of the court was resumed. By cutting a hole through the ceiling of one of their cells they reached the clothing store room, where they changed their jail garb for new street suits. Then forcing several doors to the staircase at the rear they escaped. All were serving terms of from one year to six years. Henry Quinn and Henry Currier of Portsmouth are the only men whose names were known.

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INSISTS \$100,000 BRIBE WAS PAID TO ELECT LORIMER

But Publisher Kohlhaas Refuses to Give the Name of His Informant.

SILENCE MAY JAIL HIM.

Investigating Committee Tells Chicago Man He Will Have to Answer Question.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 28.—H. H. Kohlhaas, publisher of the Chicago Record Herald, told the Senate investigating committee today that he knew \$100,000 had been used to procure the election of William Lorimer to the United States Senate. He refused to give the committee the source of his information, notwithstanding the committee has the power to imprison him because of his refusal.

When Mr. Kohlhaas was first called to the stand he was asked where he obtained his information on which he wrote an editorial saying \$100,000 had been raised to elect Lorimer. He declined to answer that and a number of other questions. He said he could not violate a confidence.

"Would you denounce any citizen who takes the stand you have taken here?" asked Senator Burton.

"Any man who will violate a confidence is not worth a snap. I would not let my court reporter violate a confidence. No newspaper man can violate a confidence. That is my code of morals."

"You have been demanding this investigation and now you refuse to aid us."

"I appreciate the position, but I will not violate this confidence," concluded Mr. Kohlhaas.

The committee then went into an executive session, and the questions were again put to Mr. Kohlhaas in this secret session. Again he refused absolutely to answer.

The doors were reopened and Mr. Kohlhaas was given a third opportunity to answer the committee. This he again refused to do. He was then excused until 6 o'clock Thursday morning.

Mr. Kohlhaas was informed by the committee that its members had agreed that he must answer the questions regarding the money.

TAFT DID NOT URGE LORIMER FOR SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Prompt denial was made here today by friends of President Taft of the report from Springfield, Ill., that the President had joined with Senator Aldrich in urging the election of William Lorimer to the United States Senate.

Edward Hines, a Chicago lumberman, at the Lorimer hearing in Springfield yesterday, testified that Senator Aldrich had told him Mr. Taft was anxious that Mr. Lorimer should be selected. It was stated here today that a similar report became current last September and that President Taft then, in a letter to an Illinois friend, categorically denied the statement.

In that letter, the President said among other things that "the rumor, report or statement that I conscientiously lent any of the weight of the Administration to the election of Lorimer is wholly untrue."

Friends of the President said that Mr. Taft had expressed the hope that the deadlock in Illinois would be broken, and a Senator elected, but that that was as far as he had gone.

Senator Aldrich today, declined to discuss the testimony of Mr. Hines.

TWELVE ESCAPE JAIL DRESSED IN NEW SUITS.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., March 28.—A posse was called out today immediately on the discovery that twelve men confined in the House of Correction at Brentwood had escaped. Nothing was known of the prison break until the officials found the men lurking this morning.

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SIR C. P. CLARKE, EX-MUSEUM HEAD, DIES IN ENGLAND

Passes Away at His Home in Earls Court After a Long Illness.

LONDON, March 28.—Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke, formerly director of the Metropolitan Museum of Arts in New York, died today at his home in Earls Court. He had been in poor health for more than a year.

Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke gave up his place at the head of the Metropolitan Museum last June because of his failing health. He had been away from the Museum almost a year, trying to recover from the gout which had made it almost impossible for him to continue his duties here. He was sixty-five years old.

Brought Here by Morgan. It was at the instance of J. Pierpont Morgan that Sir Caspar came to this country to take charge of the Metropolitan Museum seven years ago. He was attracted by a salary of \$15,000 a year, just twice what he was paid for his work at the South Kensington Museum in London.

"It's a high price," J. P. Morgan was quoted as saying at the time, "but he is a good man. Why, there are expert clothing buyers on Broadway who get more."

Sir Caspar distinguished himself in this country by his sympathy with American aims and ideas in art and by the pains he took to go about and get acquainted. He was very broad in his art creeds and wonderfully patient in explaining art technique to people who knew nothing about it.

Created a Knight. He was created a knight in 1902. He was superintendent of art reproductions in Italy in 1893. He built His Majesty's Legation in Teheran and surveyed consular property in Persia in 1894. He was commercial agent for the Government of India at the Paris Exhibition of 1878, and organized in India the Colonial and Indian Art Exhibition of 1883-84. He was made Director of the South Kensington Museum in 1896, and was Royal